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Executive; nowhere else has the author better deserved his reader's gratitude than in his clear presentation of the inter-relations between the Crown, the Cabinet and the Privy Council, in regard to which the vagueness and "reticence" of English constitutional law is "at once the despair and the admiration of foreign publicists." Two chapters are given to the House of Lords, tracing its evolution, and discussing interestingly its judicial functions, its "referendal" and "ventilating" functions; and its service as "a reservoir of Cabinet Ministers." These pages form an enlightening preface to the new chapter in English constitutional history written by Parliament during the past summer, too recently to be summarized in this book. Four chapters set forth the history and workings of the House of Commons; urban and rural local government are each accorded a chapter, and one—by no means the clearest—is devoted to the judiciary.

"The State and the Empire" is the last topic discussed. In rapid outline are presented the steps by which England has come to rule "the greatest empire known to human history." After a brief but comprehensive survey of the government of the several dominions, colonies and dependencies, the author notes the facts that during the past forty years the "Imperial note has swelled louder and louder," but that there is "an entire lack of agreement as to the means by which sentiment should be translated into fact." "One prediction, however, may be hazarded,"—but this rash essay into the field of prophecy proves to be nothing more startling than that: "Things will not remain as they are." With the scientist's caution, the author is at great pains to avoid committing himself as to the probable outcome; nevertheless, he presents in attractive colors that "larger hope" of those who "look for the gradual evolution of some scheme of political and commercial federation."

GEORGE H. HAYNES.

*The Presidential Campaign of 1860.* By EMERSON DAVID FITE, Ph. D. (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1911, Pp. xiii, 356.)

The body of this book consists of eight chapters entitled, John Brown, Helper's "Impending Crisis" and the Speakership Contest,

Anti-Slavery in the House and Senate, The Popular Discussion of Slavery, The Democratic Conventions, The Republican Convention, Campaign Arguments, Leaders and Conduct of the Campaign. The Appendix, in addition to the party platforms, gives a typical campaign speech for each of the four parties. One by Carl Schurz stands for the Republicans; Stephen A. Douglas and William L. Yancey represent the two wings of the Democratic party, and W. G. Brownlow speaks for the Constitutional Union party. In the body of the book are found extended quotations from other speeches, from newspapers, magazines and other forms of contemporary literature. There are likewise copies of private letters or quotations from them. A prime merit of the book is the selection and arrangement of the utterances of contemporaries. The actors in the events are permitted to speak for themselves, so that the material presented is of value entirely apart from the author's commentaries.

In the introductory chapter he expresses an opinion which the book contradicts. He says, "Believing slavery to be right, it was the duty of the South to defend it. It is time the words 'traitors,' 'conspirators,' 'rebels,' and 'rebellion' be discarded. But the North was no less right in opposing slavery, for theirs was a course springing from the natural promptings of morality. History, then, must adjudge that both sides in the controversy were right, and that the war was bound to come when the opposing sides conscientiously held, the one to the wrong, the other to the right, of slavery." On pages 195 and 196 the author works out this theme to its tragic conclusion. Each party was guilty of aggression; each in its own eyes was justified. "Thus the infinite pathos of the ensuing civil war. Both sides were right! Neither could have given in and remained true to itself."

As is clearly shown in the text, the whole South did not believe that slavery was right. Helper's *Impending Crisis* exhibits a radical division of sentiment on the subject. Only the few owned slaves. The masses of the white people of the South were opposed to slavery or the facts were such that they were on the point of becoming anti-slavery. Hence the panic over Helper's book as depicted in chapter II. The North was likewise divided, as appears from the reception of Yancey's speeches. The growth of pro-slavery sentiment in the North after the Mexican War was as striking as it was in the South. The actual facts do not warrant the assertion that the two sections were pitted against each other on the moral issue of the slavery ques-

tion. In each section there was active debate over both the slavery question and the constitutional right of secession. As the author points out, each section under radical leadership became guilty of aggression. On account of this culpable course of conduct the country drifted into war.

In the selection and arrangement of his materials Mr. Fite appears as a scientific historian. In coming to a statement of personal opinion he lapses into the traditional state of mind which finds classic expression in the Greek tragedy—man is a plaything of the gods; the thing that happens is a decree of fate. The reader of the book, however, will find abundant support for the more modern view that wrongdoing is not right nor is it inevitable.

*World Organization as Affected by the Nature of the Modern State.* By DAVID JAYNE HILL. (New York: Columbia University Press, 1911. Pp. x, 214.)

This work consists of eight lectures delivered before Columbia University, on the Carpentier Foundation, in the spring of 1911. The author's main object is to demonstrate "the peculiar adaptability of the modern state for entering into a world organization in the juristic sense." His method is historical and analytical. He traces the gradual evolution of the juristic idea of the State in international relations, and the progress in the better organization of those relations. The modern state, with its recognition of the rights of strangers within its bounds, and with some degree of concern for the welfare of foreign peoples, is contrasted with the former isolated and egotistical State, regarding exclusively the rights and interests of its own members. The author's analysis of fundamental political conceptions is not presented with sufficient precision to be given in brief here. His conclusion is that there are no international differences which are not justiciable according to ordinary principles of domestic jurisprudence, and that there are no inherent obstacles to the development of a society of states, formed on the basis of positive jural interrelations, and organized for the expression and impartial adjudication of laws embodying those relations.

Most readers will perhaps feel that the value of this work lies in its general tone—in the learned and thoughtful manner in which ideals are stated and supported, rather than in any contribution that is